Morocco

The authorities have foiled an Algerian-sponsored sabotage operation against Morocco, Interior Minister Driss Basri announced in a statement carried by Rabat radio. Two Moroccan citizens who were arrested the night of 10 July while attempting to cross into the Kingdom from Algeria have admitted receiving explosives and weapons training under the command of Algerian security officers, he said, and they were part of a group entrusted with carrying out mass terrorism, sabotage, and assassination.

An Algerian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman denied the allegations, according to Algiers radio.

Egypt

The authorities have detained 46 Islamic fundamentalists in Cairo, Al-Fayyum, and Alexandria, and legal action against them is expected after their interrogation has ended, MENA reported. The detainees include Shaykh Hafiz Salamah, who is connected with the distribution of leaflets at the Al-Nur Mosque in Cairo's Al-'Abbasiyah district. In remarks subsequently broadcast by Cairo radio, the religious trusts minister reaffirmed the government's intention of bringing all mosques under his department's control, adding that sermons must be delivered only by qualified preachers who have obtained official permits.

Israel and the Palestinians

After holding talks with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in a meeting that "was supposed to have remained secret," Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj expressed optimism about peace prospects and described the meeting as a "very important step" toward an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, IDF radio reported. Nabulus notable Hikmat al-Masri, who also attended the talks, stated afterward that the Palestinians want to negotiate, according to Jerusalem radio.

As for the expected talks between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the United States, sources in Amman cited by Radio Monte Carlo disclosed that the Arab side will consist of members of the PNC and the Jordanian House of Representatives. In Damascus, a PFLP spokesman cited by Damascus radio warned potential delegation members of the "consequences" of participating in such "liquidatory" schemes.

Sudan

Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad has postponed a visit to Cairo for "health reasons," a Transitional Military Council spokesman disclosed in a statement cited by AFP. As for the internal situation, SUNA noted that the bank employees' trade union announced a 3-day strike to protest the forcible dispersal of its 15 July demonstration in Khartoum. Meanwhile, a Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) spokesman warned in a statement reported by the SPLA's clandestine radio that foreign nationals should evacuate all areas where the SPLA is operating "in the interests of their own safety."

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian military commander cited by IRNA described Iraqi claims of having killed 940 Iranian troops in beating back an offensive in the north as "totally baseless and ridiculous." Iran fully controls all the axes in the northwestern region and the 14 July attack resulted in over 500 Iraqi casualties, IRNA contended. In another report, IRNA stated that Iranian forces killed more than 240 enemy troops during their second offensive in 3 days in the northwest. Meanwhile, Iranian jets bombarded enemy armored and infantry units in northern Iraq, according to a military communique cited by IRNA. Earlier, IRNA reported that Iraqi jets repeatedly attacked Piranshah 15 July.

Iraq

President Saddam Husayn, in a revolution anniversary speech carried by Voice of the Masses radio, called for Arab solidarity and collective Arab cooperation while criticizing those who "ruin" Arab relations. He said Arab solidarity cannot be strong and effective without Egypt, and urged Arab leaders to extend their hands "with the spirit of fraternity and without any complexes" to Egypt's leadership. Discussing the Iran-Iraq war, the president warned Iran against any new offensive, saying it will be doomed to failure. He added that Iran is hoping to change the political balance after its failure to change the military balance by adopting terrorism and internal threats against other countries, while pretending to be friendly toward them. Saddam Husayn said that Iran can only overcome its frustrations and failure by abandoning expansionist ambitions and hostile plans and accepting an honorable and just peace.

Iran

Iran's hajj policy will continue unchanged and foreign governments must "put up with it," Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni asserted in a speech carried by Tehran radio. Noting that Musavi-Kho'iniha will not lead the Iranian pilgrims this year because of his duties as public prosecutor, Khomeyni designated Mehdi Karrubi as the new pilgrims' supervisor "on a temporary basis." He called for a greater number of people to perform the hajj but stressed that pilgrims must "mind their behavior and display more unity." Khomeyni also told clergymen they should lead simple lives, avoiding the trappings of wealth and power which lower their standing among ordinary people.

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Karmal Receives Credentials of New Indian Envoy
LD160221 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA recently accepted the credentials of His Excellency Inder Pal Khosla as ambassador and extraordinary representative of the Indian Republic to the DRA, as requested by India.

Karmal Congratulates Iraqi President on Anniversary
LD161759 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] A message of congratulation from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, addressed to Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq, on the occasion of the 17th anniversary of that country's revolution, has been communicated to Baghdad.

BAKHTAR: Ziaul Haq Convicts 7 Pakistani Officers
LD170148 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 15, BAKHTAR: General Ziaul Haq faced with ever increasing opposition, even among the armed forces of Pakistan, has convicted seven Pakistani Army officers to various terms of imprisonment which include twelve years, imprisonment with labour and life imprisonment.

The trial of these persons which took place secretly, caused wide protest of the people of Pakistan, lawyers and international organizations.

The convicted are accused of overthrowing General Zia's regime in January 1984. Nineteen persons including sixteen Army officers were detained on this accusation.

General Zia witnessing the climax of opposition and protest of the people of Pakistan against his foreign and domestic policy, resorts to every kind of illegal means for his survival. General Zia, instead of responding to the demands of the people for the release of political prisoners and restoration of democracy, sends more people to the medieval prisons of that country.

While these protests are levelled owing to political and military closeness of Pakistan to the USA, General Zia ever further seeks refuge in the Reagan administration.

Political observers say that the gap between the people and General Zia regime has become so wide that the establishment of relations between them has become impossible. The observers cite the recent demonstrations against the regime as an example in this connection.

At present, these protests have become deeply rooted in the armed forces of Pakistan. The censure of press, imposing curfews and seiging the opposition cannot camouflage the actuality of the situation in Pakistan.

2 Pakistan 'Nondiplomatic' Officials Arrested
LD161635 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1400 today. The following points were made to him by the head of the First Political Department: According to information supplied by the DRA security authorities, two nondiplomatic officials of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul, (Nazir Khan) and (Wahid Shah), in contradiction to their duties, were engaged in gathering information on the DRA security forces. They were arrested in Kabul city today by the security forces. There are many documents regarding events leading to their arrest. It should be noted that the DRA security forces have had the two men under surveillance for a long time.

The DRA Government, while strongly protesting such acts by the two nondiplomatic officials of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul, states that such activities, which contradict accepted international laws and principles, should be stopped.

AFP: MIG's Draw Fire Over Pakistani Town
NC162130 Paris AFP in English 2116 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Islamabad, July 16 (AFP) — A pair of Afghan Air Force MIG fighters made passes for five minutes today over the Pakistani town of Datta Khel close to the point where defecting Afghan airmen landed two helicopters last Saturday, according to reliable sources in the border town of Peshawar. The sources said that Pakistani anti-aircraft batteries opened fire on the intruders without success.

Earlier today the authorities in Kabul announced the arrest on spying charges of two Pakistani diplomats based in the Afghan capital.

Mujahidin Conduct Operations Against Soviet Troops
GF161524 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin escalated their attacks against communist military locations in the Panjsher Valley and inflicted grave losses on the Afghan Army. Western diplomats said that the mujahidin stopped a major Soviet raid on Buzgur military post which was seized by the mujahidin last month. They were also able to push the Soviet and Afghan forces further down the valley. The diplomats added that the losses suffered by the Kabul regime army are very high.

SPA Details Rebel Operations in Herat, Kabul
GF161550 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1325 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Islamabad, 16 Jul (SPA) — The Afghan mujahidin attacked two major Soviet military assembly points in Kabul on 12 July, capturing four Soviet soldiers.

During the fighting which took place in Herat on 3 July, the mujahidin killed 35 Soviets, captured 55, wounded more than 100, and destroyed 50 military vehicles.

Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad said today that two major explosions took place in Kabul recently, killing nine persons and wounding many others. The sources said the Afghan mujahidin attacked a convoy on athe Salang highway on 8 July, destroying 10 trucks. On 16 July, they destroyed 2 tanks in the Panjsher Valley and killed 60 mercenary Afghan soldiers. They also downed one Soviet helicopter near (Bashagur) in the Panjsher Valley.

The sources said as a result of the mujahidin's new attacks on the highways, the Soviets had sent a major force, backed by 250 military vehicles, and carried out a large-scale search campaign around the airbase in Bagram. They also killed 200 civilians to revenge the mujahidin's attacks.

Gandhi Says Pakistan Uses Bomb as Blackmail

BK170915 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] The prime minister has said that a Pakistani nuclear bomb will be a weapon of blackmail, not only for India but for the whole world. In an interview with a Bombay weekly, *BLITZ*, he hoped that after his talks with President Reagan, the United States will do much more to prevent Pakistan from going ahead with its nuclear plan. Mr Rajiv Gandhi reiterated that India is very much against making a nuclear bomb. But at the same time, national security cannot be compromised.

About terrorist camps in the United States, the prime minister hoped that America would give all the information. He felt that there is something they could tell us, which they are not doing. India is in possession of a video film showing how training is provided in one of these camps. During his visit to the United States, he raised the matter with the American authorities, and they were very categorical that they will help us with all the information. The prime minister said that the Air India plane crash and the hijacking of the TWA aircraft will bring a marked shift in the attitude of many countries toward terrorism.

About Punjab, the prime minister said the atmosphere has been defused, but we should be ready to face such challenges for some time because terrorists just don't disappear.

Mr Gandhi replied to questions on Afghanistan, new international economic order, and the South Asian regional cooperation. The United States has agreed to discuss the new economic order. It is a major step forward, Mr Gandhi said. He referred to the foreign secretary's visit to neighboring countries and said cordial and cooperative relations must be built among the countries of our region. The Thimpu talks are a result of the growing trust and confidence. He expressed the hope that the South Asian Regional Cooperation summit in December will be a success.

Delhi on Consequences of Pakistan Nuclear Plan

BK161504 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The assertion by the Pakistan president that his country has the right to make the atom bomb once again brings out the ambivalence which has been characteristic of Pakistani utterances on the subject. Only last month, President Ziaul Haq had said in Jeddah that Pakistan would not make the atom bomb. He had added that Pakistan did not have either the intention or the technology to use nuclear devices for military purposes. Even then, the people had found it strange that a country which said that she would make the atom bomb should go in for enriched uranium for which she had no use or to test triggers for atom bombs. The testing of the krytrons, as the firing mechanism is called, possibly gives Pakistan the confidence that she could make the bomb. Once this confidence came about, past assertions about not making the bomb were quickly and easily forgotten.

The Washington report about the testing of the trigger is by a well known American correspondent and cannot, therefore, be easily brushed aside. All the more so because over the last few years there has been steady increase in Pakistan's nuclear capability. It should also be borne in mind that it is not necessary at all to test a nuclear weapon as such. After all, the atom bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima was never tested in totality. It would serve equally well to test the various components separately and thus gain the confidence that the various components when put together would function. The testing of krytrons has been seen in this light. It lends credence to the fear that Pakistan is on the way to acquiring the atom bomb without actually carrying out any underground test.

It has also to be remembered that while Pakistan has been denying that she has any intentions to make the nuclear bomb, her actions have frequently gone against these professions. She has acquired technologies which are not related in any way to peaceful use of atomic energy. For example, Pakistan's nuclear power plants use natural uranium. They cannot use enriched uranium. Why should, then, she acquire enriched uranium? Where does the enriched uranium go? The enriched uranium and now testing of the krytrons have to be viewed as further steps in Pakistan's slow but steady progress toward developing nuclear weapon.

India's stand on the question has been clear. She is committed to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. Eleven years ago India exploded an experimental nuclear device. Since then she has not carried out any more work in that direction. India's resolve not to go in for atomic weapons has been reiterated time and again by successive prime ministers. One of them even gave the unilateral assurance that India would never explode an atomic device. There are people who ask why, then, does India not sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty [NPT]. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, once again made the Indian attitude to the treaty clear. The NPT seeks to place restrictions on nations like India which do not have nuclear weapons and have declared time and again that they have no intentions of developing these weapons. But there are no restrictions on nuclear powers. Is it then wrong for India to refuse to sign the treaty which is so heavily biased? India is committed to develop and use nuclear energy only for peaceful purpose. There is a commitment, but there is an equally great — if not greater — commitment, and that is to preserve the integrity and independence of the country.

The development of the ability by Pakistan to make the atom bomb is a serious development which will change the whole context in South Asia. India is committed to peace and wants friendship with all countries, particularly her neighbors. She ardently believes in peace because in peace alone can all the countries of the region raise the living standards of their people. But while she is committed to peace, she cannot shut her eyes to danger to peace posed by Pakistan's desire to make the atomb bomb. She will be compelled to take a new look at the whole situation if Pakistan persists in her quest of the bomb. The United States has been the main supplier of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan. It is primarily, therefore, her responsibility to see that Pakistan's search for the bomb does not create a situation in this part of the world which would negate all efforts for peace.

Indian Army Disbands Mutinous Sikh Battalion
HK170807 Hong Kong AFP in English 0706 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] New Delhi, July 17 (AFP) — A Sikh Battalion which mutinied after the Indian army's assault on the Golden Temple in Amritsar last year has been disbanded, a newspaper reported today. *THE INDIAN EXPRESS* said the Ninth Battalion of the Sikh Regiment based in the desert state of Rajasthan had been disbanded with immediate effect. Defence Ministry spokesmen were not immediately available for comment.

The newspaper said that the battalion mutinied on June 7-8 shortly after the army assault when 234 Sikh soldiers opened fire on the houses of their officers. No further details of the incident were known, but *THE EXPRESS* said that the decision to disband the battalion was taken after one year of deliberations. The newspaper recalled that the last time an army unit was disbanded was in the northeastern state of Assam in the 1950's.

It added that the government had ordered a "major reorganization" of other Sikh army units which were affected by the army's assault on Sikhdom's holiest shrine in which 650 people were killed. As many as five Sikh army units mutinied after the assault but were put down by loyal Indian troops. Several court martial proceedings are in progress, informed sources said.

The Sikhs are in large numbers in the 1.2 million strong Indian army, especially in the infantry which has a total strength of 960,000 men. Sikh representation in the Indian army was as high as 20 per cent several years ago but had been reduced to 12 to 14 percent, army sources said.

THE EXPRESS report today coincided with an announcement by the chief of the Akali Dal Sikh political party, Harchand Singh Longowal, that he would launch a new autonomy campaign from August 20. A section of 16 million Sikhs in India are campaigning for greater political autonomy for their rich farming state in the country's north. The militants among them, however, want secession. Mr Longowal told journalists in a Punjab town yesterday that he had asked his party cadres to mobilise Sikh opinion on a new campaign which would be announced on August 20. The announcement came following government efforts to stem Sikh discontent by freeing Sikh prisoners, observers said. The Punjab state government yesterday said it was releasing 105 Sikhs held in prisons.

The latest release brought the total number of Sikhs freed from prison since last month to 1,377, domestic news agencies said quoting official sources in Chandigarh, the joint capital Punjab shares with Hindu dominated Haryana State.

Army Withdrawn From Ahmedabad After 3 Months
BK160909 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] The army has been completely pulled out from Ahmedabad. The director general of police, Mr J.S. Robeiro, told All India Ahmedabad correspondent that the decision to pull out the army was taken at the highest level at Gandhinagar. Eight additional companies of the state reserve police and the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] have been mobilized to replace the Army contingent which was withdrawn after 3 months.

The police chief expressed confidence that with people's cooperation police would be able to maintain the law and order situation effectively. Stern measures will be taken against anti-social elements trying to disrupt peace in the city. Police, he said, has been asked to (?function) as a disciplined force. He said the curfew in the city will be gradually withdrawn.

Karachi Protests Arrest of Diplomats in DRA

BK171028 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad yesterday and a strong protest was lodged with him regarding the arrest of two members of the staff of the Pakistan mission in Kabul. The Afghan charge d'affaires was told that the arrest of these members of the Pakistan Embassy constituted a violation of the provision of the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, and the Government of Pakistan demanded immediate release of the embassy officials. It held the Afghan authorities responsible for the safety and security of all Pakistani personnel serving in its mission in Afghanistan.

President on Commitment To Develop India Ties

BK161614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has reaffirmed Pakistan's determination to wholeheartedly support the Kashmiri people's struggle for independence and says that Pakistan will never deviate from its principled stand. He was addressing a huge public meeting in Muzaffarabad today after inaugurating the newly constructed Qaide Azam bridge over the River Jhelum at Domial.

He reiterated that Pakistan is committed to establishing peaceful relations with its neighbors, and that it has unleashed a peaceful campaign to establish friendly relations with India. He said that despite a number of hurdles on this path, Pakistan has not abandoned these efforts. This is because, being a Muslim country, it believes in peace.

On Pakistan's relations with China he said that our relations are so good that they can be used as a glowing example of friendly relations in the comity of nations.

He said that the biggest obstacle to establishing good relations with India is the Kashmir issue, which can be solved through negotiations, love, and sincerity. On Azad Kashmir's development, the president said that Pakistan has been providing and will provide every assistance for this purpose.

He said that Pakistan has increased financial assistance to Azad Kashmir during the past few years, and this is reflected in the fact that 4 billion rupees have been provided for the development of the region in the current 5-year plan, while during the 1955-60 plan period, it was only 1 billion rupees. The financial assistance toAzad Kashmir during the last 8 years has been increased 10 times, and totals more than 550 million rupee in financial aid this year.

Quetta Situation Reviewed; Curfew Relaxed

BK161528 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] A high-level meeting in Quetta today reviewed the law and order situation in the city and described it as satisfactory. Provincial chief minister Jam Mir Ghulam Qadir Khan presided over the meeting. The curfew restriction was relaxed in Quetta from 0900 to 1800 today. Curfew will be relaxed from 0700 to 1900 tomorrow.

UAE Paper: Security Agencies Alerted for Terrorists

GF161132 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 16 Jul 85 p 1

["By our correspondent"]

[Text] Karachi — Law enforcing agencies and the intelligence network throughout Pakistan have been put on alert to stop terrorists repeating bomb blasts that damaged the Pan American Airline office in Karachi and the American Information Centre in Lahore. Although no formal arrest has been made either at Lahore or Karachi for the bomb blasts, the local police have rounded up more than a dozen suspects, including some foreign students.

In Karachi pro-Khomeyni Iranian students are being suspected of having a hand in the blast that rocked Pakistan's largest city on Sunday night. A senior police official told *KHALEEJ TIMES* that a plastic bomb, which leaves no residue and can be manufactured locally, was used in the explosion in Karachi. Armed police patrols have been posted at important buildings here including hotels and airline offices.

In a related development, the Airport Security Force [ASF] has asked airlines at major airports to maintain tight security and check suspected persons. Security had been tightened at the Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad airports by the ASF personnel following the recent hijacking of a TWA Boeing and the Air India Boeing disaster.

Meanwhile, an indefinite curfew was still in force in Kalakot, Chakiwara and Baghdadi areas of the city following three days of unrest and the death of a man in police firing last Friday. The army was rushed in late on Sunday after police failed to control the situation. So far, 122 persons have been arrested and charged with rioting, looting and arson.

SRI LANKA

Delegation Head: Tamil Principles Contradict Unity

HK171004 Hong Kong AFP in English 0921 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] Colombo, July 17 (AFP) — Two of the basic principles laid down by the Tamils for peace in Sri Lanka countervened [as received] the government's desire that the country remain united, cabinet sources said today. But the government would be willing to grant some autonomy if the demands could be interprted under the national constitution, the sources said.

Minister of State Anandatissa de Alwis said the Government delegation that returned yesterday from talks in Bhutan with Sri Lankan Tamil representatives had briefed the cabinet on the six days of meetings.

A section of the country's Tamils have been waging a lengthy bloody campaign for a separate state in the north and east. Government representatives last week began meeting with representatives of six Tamil groups in a bid to find a political solution.

Harry Jayewardene, brother of President Junius Jayewardene and leader of the delegation, said that two of the basic principles demanded by the Tamils were the right to self-determination for "the Tamil nation" and the demarcation of a "traditional homeland," Mr De Alwis said.

Mr De Alwis quoted the delegation leader as saying the two principles were "inconsistent with and contradictory to a united nation." "If the demand that the proposals for a political settlement should recognise the right of Tamils to self determination extends to the point of an absolute right it can only mean the totally unacceptable claim to a separate state by whatever name it is called," Mr Jayewardene said in his statement to the ministers. But if this meant a "reasonable degree" of autonomy under the existing constitution the government would be willing to grant such autonomy, his statement said, summarising the position taken at Thimpu.

The government delegation also refused to recognize the right of the Tamil groups represented at Thimpu to speak for all the 2.5 million Tamil speaking people in Sri Lanka who also include Moslems and Indian Tamils. The two other principles put forward by the six Tamil groups present were the recognition of the Tamils as a distinct nationality and citizenship and other fundamental rights for all Tamils who consider Sri Lanka their home. Today's cabinet meeting was chaired by President Junius Jayewardene.

The cabinet today welcomed a statement by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi yesterday in which he said he opposed independence for the Tamils and said that any solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problems in Sri Lanka should fall within the country's constitution, Mr De Alwis said. Mr Gandhi had made the remarks to reporters in Madras, India.

Press Censorship Lifted Effective 17 July

BK171048 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] The minister of state, Dr Anandatissa de Alwis, has disclosed that press censorship has been lifted with effect from today.

Khomeyni Addresses Assembly of Experts on Hajj
LD161326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni to the Assembly of Experts on 16 July, at his residence in Tehran — read by announcer]

[Text] Following the holding of the fifth meeting of the third sitting of the Assembly of Experts in Tehran, all the members of the Assembly of Experts were received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning. In this meeting Ayatollah Meshkini, chairman of the Assembly of Experts, submitted a report about the work of the Assembly of Experts and its decisions and certain issues concerning the Constitution to the imam of the ummah. He expressed the gratitude, appreciation, and happiness of the Council of Experts members for this meeting. Then Imam Khomeyni made the following speech:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. First I wish to express my thanks for the kind remarks of Mr. Meshkini and I hope that God will deal with me in accordance with his good words, and will enable all of us to be in the service of Islam. I also wish to express my thanks to the gentlemen who have given me the honor of meeting them. I hope they will be able to perform in the best possible way this responsibility which has been placed on their shoulders, and act in a way which would please God Almighty.

One of the most important issues which I wish to remind you of is the issue that concerns all the members of the clergy and officials of the country. I am always worried lest these people who have sacrificed everything they possess, have served Islam and have indebted us to them, will turn away from us because of our deeds; because what people have expected and still expect of us — the reason they have followed us, spread Islam, set up the Islamic Republic and destroyed taghut [the former regime] — is the quality of life led by the ulema. If, God forbid, the people see that the gentlemen have changed their way of life, put up buildings for themselves, and their comings and goings are unworthy of their status as spiritual people; and if they lose what is in their hearts about the spiritual people, then that loss will be tantamount to the loss of Islam and the Islamic Republic.

Of course I should add that the group that is threatened must protect itself, but still it should take care not to go overboard. You should not imagine that if you come out in a motorcade your prestige among the people will be enhanced. What the people are concerned about and is in keeping with the public taste, is that you should lead simple lives, just as the leaders of Islam, the prophet of Islam, the lord of the faithful [Imam 'Ali] and our imams led simple and ordinary lives. In fact theirs was a life below the ordinary. Those who set up the Islamic Republic, too, are ordinary people. Those who sit at the top are not involved in such issues [luxurious living].

The people of the bazaar, the farmers, the factory workers — those who are weak in the eyes of the world but strong in the eyes of God — expect such things from us. If, God forbid, the attention of these people is diverted from us its loss will not only concern us, but this loss will also affect Islam. We should protect those who have safeguarded Islam and the Islamic Republic and who will safeguard it in the future. The way to protect them is for us to lead simple lives. Those who wish to protect themselves should know that sometimes they can be more protected in a peykan [locally assembled car] than in other cars. The Friday imams, who might be killed if they come out in an ordinary way, should protect themselves to such an extent which does not lead to excess. We should not have a situation whereby every time a Friday imam comes out on the street the street should be emptied of people and a hue and cry created. Such things would bring down your standing in society. Your greatness, gentlemen, has nothing to do with this world. Your greatness has something to do with the other world and to be respected in the sight of God. This is an important matter which affects the safeguading of the Islamic Republic. We should take great care; and the ulema, the members of the government and the leaders should take greater care, because everybody is trying to find a weak point, especially relating to the ulema, and to raise it everywhere. We should act in such a way that if we were deprived of [our positions] we would not regret it; not like the American President who if deprived of his office might die of grief.

The next point which I should refer to is that these days are the days of the hajj and hajj is one of the main issues of our country and other countries. We pay special attention to hajj. I know Mr Musavi-Kho'iniha and he was very active and acted very well. However, as he was needed in the prosecutor's office this year he cannot go on hajj. I thought a great deal and I decided that Mr Karrubi is a good substitute. Mr Karrubi was beaten up for many long years during the former regime, has suffered a great deal in this path, and is a steadfast and qualified person. Therefore, on a temporary basis, we send him this year and we will see what should be done in future years.

As for the point I raised, some are trying to find a basis to support their argument that the relieving of Mr Musavi has changed the situation in Iran; that Iran's policy has been altered. They do not realize that hajj policy is not a policy designed by us; hajj constitutes an Islamic policy. From the very beginning our policy has been based on the fact that we must adhere to hajj in its original form. As the prophet smashed idols in Ka'aba, we too must smash them. The thing is that the idols living in our era are stronger and worse than those existing in the early Islamic era.

We must go on hajj as practised in the past; we must act as before, when demonstrations and marches used to take place. Our policy has not changed with the removal of Mr Musavi. Hajj will be carried out as it has been carried out over the past 2 or 3 years. As for the governments, they must put up with it. We cannot avoid the duty set up for us by Islam. This is precisely what the Koran has instructed. Consequently, our hajj policy will be the same as before. So, whenever we go on hajj we will act as before, unless they stop us and prevent us from going on hajj. This, however, will be an entirely a different issue. I do hope that this duty will be discharged as before, even better and with a greater number of people. As for the pilgrims, they must mind their behavior and display more unity. I do hope that this feeling is shared by other Muslim countries. For more than 1 billion Muslims must not wait to see what America or the USSR is saying. They must stand on their own feet and ignore others, as this 40-million strong country — a country which, compared to

others, is a very small one — did. It stood up on its own feet, saying "Neither East, nor West." Right now, this country enjoys more respect than those countries being supported by them the United States and the USSR. The fact is that the attention paid to this country by Muslims is greater.

Having said that, I must point out that other nations must entertain no fear of any possible action by the United States. They are like an empty drum; all they do is to shout, without resorting to any action. Look at the United States says about terrorists, something which we and everyone else oppose; look at what they did. They were always trying to affiliate the terrorists to one of the countries opposing themselves. However, they failed to do so. Therefore, all their threats are baseless. Nothing is likely to happen. So, nations must not be afraid; they must continue along the path they have already chosen, for Islam and God are with them. Anyone being supported by God must not be afraid of anything.

I hope that God may enable us to carry out his instructions. God bless you all.

Saudi Officials Discuss Problems

LD162132 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — Problems of the Iranian hajj pilgrims were discussed in a meeting Tuesday between Iranian director of Hajj and Endowment Organization Hoj Imam-e Jamarani and Saudi Arabia's Charge d'Affaires to Tehran Marvan Bashir-Alroomi.

At the meeting Hoj Jamarani presented suggestions for solving problems of the Iranian pilgrims at the annual religious ceremonies in Mecca.

Free Voice of Iran Comments

GF162010 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Excerpts] In a speech to representatives of the Council of Experts, Khomeyni advised government mullahs against luxuries and said: It should not be that we become sorry when this lifestyle is taken from us.

Noting that the regime of the Islamic Republic is against terrorism, Khomeyni called recent remarks by Reagan empty threats and said that nations must not be afraid of such threats. They are empty drums. See what the United States said and what it did.

Mr Khomeyni has only recently realized that professional mourners, death-shroud sellers and charlatans have changed their lifestyle and that each of them have several new cars and mansions and lovely buildings. Any mullah in any area where he is serving has many guards and each of the rulers of the regime can only go from one point to the next in bullet-proof Mercedes Benz cars and with special guards. However, the people of Iran, much sooner than Mr Khomeyni, have realized that power-hungry mullahs, relying on power and position in this world, have sold their destiny in the next world preferring the pleasures of the world to rewards of the next.

As far as Khomeyni's remarks about Reagan are concerned, we only have to say that the regime of the Islamic Republic was imposed on the Iranian nation by the United States. Ignoring political games and superficial ones played by the United States, the occasional mischief of the terrorist elements of the Islamic Republic will not make the United States harm the regime of mullahs. The Islamic Republic is the supplier of the interests of the United States and Western and Eastern imperialists and the imperialist powers have so far supported this destructive regime through every trick since it has made Iran more dependent and in need fo foreigners. In politics, what is important is facts, not games played with words.

Khamene'i Orders Change in Security Measures

LD171147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] Following recent remarks by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the ulema, the clergy, members of the Assembly of Experts, Friday imams, and those clergymen holding executive offices, on doing away with unnecessary formalities, a number of members of the Assembly of Experts wrote a letter to the president requesting the speedy implementation of the imam's orders. For this reason President Khamene'i wrote a letter to Interior Minister Nateq-nur, giving the necessary orders for altering the security measures and reconsidering the matter.

Majlis Speaker Says War Fronts Status 'Excellent'

LD170832 Tehran IRNA in English 0825 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran July 17 IRNA — Majlis speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Tuesday [16 July] that the recent thrust of the Iranian forces inside Iraqi territory had inflicted "considerable losses and blows" on the enemy. "Reports reaching us undicate the enemy's total weakness and fright," Rafsanjani said.

Speaking at a dinner party given by President 'Ali Khamene'i in honor of members of the Experts Assembly, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative at the Supreme Defense Council (SDC) further stated that "our status in the war fronts is excellent. Today, the Army, the IRGC (Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps) and the basij forces are in their best form."

In a successful thrust in northern Iraq on Sunday night, [14 July] the Islamic combatants of Iran inflicted some 500 casualties on the enemy and captures many others. The operation was launched in mountainous areas in the region.

On Iraq's economic situation, the Majlis speaker said that according to figures and statistics, the continuation of the war has caused many economic problems for the enemy. The war, he said, has high expenses for the Baghdad government, either in providing arms or meeting the manpower.

elsewhere in his address to the audience Rafsanjani reiterated Iran's "Neither East nor West" policy in its relations with other countries. He also reported on his recent trip to China and Japan.

Present at the ceremony were also members of the High Judicial Council, the Council of Guardians, and the Central Council of the Tehran Combatant Ulema Society.

IRNA: Kuwaiti MP's Charge Iraq Linked to Bombings

LD161738 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 16 Jul 85

["Kuwait's MP's Call for Closer Inspection on Border with Iraq" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Kuwait, July 16, IRNA — In the wake of recent reports on the involvement of a foreign embassy here in recent explosions throughout Kuwait, a Kuwaiti parliamentarian on Monday charged the Iraqi regime with complicity in last week's explosion here, and called for the adoption of firmer security measures for preventing foreign-led subversive acts. He also called on the government to control Kuwait's land borders and transit trucks entering the country through the northern borders with Iraq.

Another Kuwaiti parliamentarian called for exercising some form of surveillance over suspicious foreign embassies in Kuwait and suggested that diplomatic relations be suspended with those states that are proved to have had a hand in the recent series of explosions in Kuwait.

Bahraini Amir Sends Message to President

GF170614 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] According to IRNA, in response to a message sent by the president of the Islamic Republic in connection with the missile and air attacks of the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime on the cities of our country and the marches that took place on Jerusalem Day, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, has sent a message to the president of our country. In a part of this message, appreciation was expressed for the importance given to mutual Islamic affairs by the president of Islamic Iran. It was emphasized that the Government of Bahrain has the same policy and beliefs as the Islamic Republic of Iran in confronting joint plots which exist against Islam.

In his message the amir of Bahrain expressed his concern over the continuation of the war between Iran and Iraq and hoped that the capabilities of both countries would be used in struggle against the mutual Zionist enemy who has intruded into the sacred Islamic land. It was emphasized that the Bahraini Government will use all its efforts and capabilities for the fulfillment of the great Islamic goals and to end the war.

Minister, Delegation Depart For Nicaraguan Jubilee

LD161724 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — Iran's construction jihad minister, Bijan Zanganeh, leading a delegation, left Tehran for Managua Tuesday to participate in ceremonies marking the anniversary of the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution. Zanganeh is conveying messages from President 'Ali Khamene'i and Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi for the Nicaraguan president, Daniel Ortega, and the Nicaraguan vice-president. He is also to meet with the Nicaraguan foreign minister, Miguel d'Escoto, who is having an indefinite hunger strike as a protest against U.S. crimes in Nicaragua.

Foreign Ministry Official Leaves for Gulf States

LD161953 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — Political director general of the Afro-Arab countries department of the Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Lavasani today left for some Middle Eastern countries in connection with the OPEC issues and efforts for political coordination in this regard. Lavasani heading a political and oil delegation is to submit messages from Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to his counterparts in the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.

Israeli Excavations in Jerusalem Condemned

LD162156 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 16 Jul 85

["Iran Protesting Against Zionists' Physical Encroachment upon Islamic Heritage" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — The Zionist regime's new archeological excavations in Qods which are encroachments against the Islamic cultural heritage, were condemned in a statement released teusday by Iran's Ministry of Culture and Higher Education. In its statement the Iranian ministry has warned all international organizations about the illegal action of the Zionist government and urged them to prevent it from any further engagement in the venturesome act.

The statement added that the Islamic Republic has called upon Muslim countries and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to coordinate their activities for checking the Zionist regime against unwarranted encroachments upon symbols of the Islamic culture.

IRNA: UN Women's Conference Criticizes Iraq

LD162029 Tehran IRNA in English 2002 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Nairobi, July 16, IRNA — The United Nations Women's decade conference which opened here Monday fast turned to a forum in which to expose crimes against men and women and denial of some basic civil rights to citizens by the Baghdad government. From its outset the politically charged conference also picked the U.S. Government as the one responsible for global unrest and tension in the Middle East. To minimise chances of passing any resolution against the U.S. Government, however, the U.S. delegation here demanded that all resolutions be adopted by "consensus" rather than simple majority vote. The suggestion by the U.S. delegation arose indignation in some quarters.

In the Monday meeting of the conference, one member of the Iraqi association of women said the Iraqi Government has denied grants and pension to the bereaved relatives of the personnel of the Iraqi armed forces killed in action. The Iraqi woman who was talking here on the occasion of the July 15th, declared as "day of solidarity with Iraqi women prisoners" said the Iraqi women have been shouldering an extra burden of the Iraq-Iran war since they have to work longer hours and pay as much as 37 percent of their net pays in tax to the Iraqi Government.

Another speaker in the conference on Monday was a lady from Britain's local association of women who criticised the United States for embroiling Iran in an unwanted war with Iraq simply in order to have some excuses later on for its military presence in the region.

One Iranian woman representing the Islamic Republic at the conference on Monday sharply criticised Washington for adventuresome operations in the Middle East and at the Persian Gulf noting also that the imposition of wars by the superpowers upon countries fresh from revolutions is not anything unprecedented. She said the practice is common with the superpowers and is pursued with the idea of creating discontent among the masses and frustrating the revolutionary peoples.

Other members of the Iranian delegation to the conference dealt with the topic of Iraq-Iran war and Baghdad's violation of international agreements especially in relation with civilian people in enemy territory. The Iranian delegation pointed out to the conference that the Islamic Republic would never bring itself to sitting down at the table for negotiation with the government that has openly said that it knows no limits to its attacks against civilian and residential quarters in Iran.

Reportage, Comment on War With Iraq

Iraqi Gains Disputed

LD161058 Tehran IRNA in English 1044 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Urumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., July 16, IRNA — The Iraqi regime Tuesday claimed that its forces had destroyed an Iranian tank batallion on Sunday night in an operation in a mountanous area in northern Iraq. The allegations which were not backed with any evidence, were made following fatal blows the Iraqi forces suffered at the hands of Iranian forces in their operation during which they penetrated 30 kms deep inside Iraqi territory. The propaganda was staged Tuesday morning without rendering any documents and with the objective of somehow strengthening the weakened morale of the Iraqi forces.

In their penetrating operation Sunday night, the Islamic combatants demolished all Iraqi military positions, killed or injured 500 Iraqi forces, and captured a number of them who were transferred to the back of the frontlines.

Those who are familiar with military operations are fully aware of the fact that in a penetrating operation, specially in mountainous areas, it is not possible to use tanks.

Military sources believe that the Baghdad regime is not expected to reinforce its crushed forces in the area adding that Iranian forces are holding the upper hand and the enemy is unable to embark on any retaliatory measure.

240 Iraqis Killed in Northwest

LD161654 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1644 GMT 16 Jul 8t

[Text] In their second infiltration operation during the past 3 days on the northwestern fronts Islam's combatants during the early morning hours carried out an infiltration attack and inflicted heavy losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces. During this lightning attack, Islam's combatants, destroyed 50 enemy foxholes and trenches, 2 mortar launchers, 2 RPG-7s, 5 machinegun emplacements and 2 ammunition dumps; and succeeded in killing more than 240 enemy soldiers.

Islamic Troops Control Northwest

LD161902 Tehran IRNA in English 1838 GMT 16 Jul 85

["Enemy Attempts Crushed in Northwestern Fronts" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran July 16 IRNA — Following the infiltration operation inside Iraq by Iran's Islamic defenders in the northwestern sector of the country on Sunday night, all enemy attempts to compensate for their high casualties and losses over the past 48 hours have been foiled.

Enemy connection routes in the region came under Iranian artillery fire intervally today and activities of Iraqi troops were disturbed. An attempted enemy attack backed by helicopter gunships and jet fighters was repelled today thanks to the vigilance of the Islamic combatants stationed in the area.

Dog-fights in the northerwestern operation region continued Tuesday and all enemy air raids were repelled by Iran's anti-aircraft defence fire and Air Force jet fighters. Latest reports indicate that the Islamic combatants of Iran are in full control of all the axes in the northwestern region.

In Sunday night's lightning offensive against Iraqi positions over 500 enemy casualties were inflicted and many other Iraqis were taken captive and moved behind the fronts.

Meanwhile, a military commander said here today that the Baghdad government seemed to have lost its control following the swift operation by the Iranian forces. Asked to comment on an Iraqi claim of having destroyed "a tank battalion" of Iran in high mountainous areas in the north of Iraq, the commander ridiculed the claim saying it was only to boost the morale of the "badly weakned" Iraqi troops.

The military commander also described as "totally baseless and ridiculous" another Iraqi claim of having killed or wounded some 1,000 Iranians in the recent thrust inside Iraq. He said those who are familiar with tactics of penetration operations as well as geographical situation of the region (which is a mountainous

area), know that these attacks are launched sporadically with limited members and from different axes. Therefore, he added, the figure of casualties claimed by Iraq is too unrealistic even to be refuted.

Although the surprise attack was launched by Iran's Muslim defenders depriving enemy forces from any movements, yet the number of Iraqi casualties itself was said to be something over 500, that is almost half of what Iraq has claimed to have inflicted on the Iranian side. "So, how could one attach any value to this claim," the commander asked.

In conclusion the commander said sarcastically, "perhaps they (the Iraqis) meant that only 940 Iranian troops (i.e. the exact number of casulaties Iraq claimed to have been inflicted) had participated in the lightning operation?"

In related news, Majlis deputy from (Kurdish towns of) Sardasht and Piranshah Mostafa Qaderi Monday inspected results of the infiltration operation by the Iranian forces on Sunday night.

He met with the Islamic combatants and conveyed the appreciation of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) for their heroic operation.

Communique No 2,167

LD161655 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran July 16 IRNA — Bomber fighters of the Islamic Republic of Iran pounded enemy troop concentration points deep inside Iraqi territory near the Shaykhan region in the north of Iraq at 13:50 hours (10:20 GMT) Tuesday inflicting "considerable losses and casualties".

The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces in its communique number 2167 issued Tuesday, also said that all the Iranian fighters returned to their bases safely.

In the northern operational region the artillery fire of the Islamic combatants shelled enemy positions destroying a number of Iraqi bunkers. The communique said that enemy aerial aggressions in Piranshahr, Sardasht, Urumiyeh, and Mahabad-Miyandow Ab axis were repelled and Iraqi planes were forced to flee.

Enemy vehicles came under Iranian artillery fire in the central fronts and 80 enemy troops were killed and 15 of their bunkers were destroyed in these fronts, said the communique.

Exchange of fire between the two sides continued in the southern fronts with the Iranian forces strengthening their positions. Five defensive bunkers, one mortar launcher, and one fuel tanker truck were demolished and a number of enemy troops were killed or wounded in these fronts.

Over the past 24 hours, the communique concluded, Abadan and Khorramshahr came under sporadic enemy fire as a result of which eight houses were damaged in Abadan and fire broke out in one case in Khorramshahr.

Iraq Shells Abadan, Khorramshahr

LD161509 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 16, IRNA — Over the past 24 hours the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province were the targets of Iraqi long-range artillery fire. At least eight houses in Abadan were damaged and one case of fire broke out in Khorramshahr.

Iraqi POW's Paraded in Behbahan

GF161524 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] More than 100 Iraqi POW's who have been captured in the glorious Jerusalem II and Jerusalem III operations by the warriors of Islam this morning arrived in the town of Behbahan aboard five buses. According to our correspondent, this group of POW's were welcomed by the ever-present and revolutionary people of Behbahan who were shouting deadly slogans such as "War, war until victory," "Death to Saddam" and "Death to America." They were then paraded through the main streets of the town.

POW: Iraqi Army Inadequate

LD162127 Tehran IRNA in English 1647 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan Prov., July 16, IRNA — "Iraqi forces have completely lost the ability to confront the Islamic forces," confessed an Iraqi POW here Tuesday. The Iraqi POW, Ismail 'Ali Fattah added "this is the reason why they give up resistance and even desert the battlefronts or prefer to be captured."

Fattah also said that the Iraqi Army suffers from lack of discipline and that the Iraqi soldiers do not heed commands from their superiors. He said the Iraqi people live under the threat of bayonets and many of them are executed everyday throughout the country.

Commenting on Iran's Sunday night offensive, the captured Iraqi soldier stated that considering the arduous region, none of the Iraqi soldiers ever expected such a fast offensive.

Iraqi 'Austerity' Measures May Close Factories

LD162147 Tehran IRNA in English 1843 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, July 16, IRNA — Many Iraqi factories now face a complete close down as a result of severe austerity measures and the inability of the Baghdad regime to pay the wages of foreign workers in Iraq. Reports reaching here indicate that the so called Revolution Council of Iraq has recently approved a decision which disallows payment to foreign workers in foreign exchange and transfer of any Iraqi dinars or jewelry out of the country.

In the wake of this decision, a group of Egyptian, Thai, Yemenese and Philippino [as received] workers at Iraqi factories left their jobs and returned to their countries. Consequently and due to a

serious shortage of manpower some major factories including the textile factory of Baghdad, Al-Raie vegetable oil, canned fruit producing and soap making factories face an expected closure.

Radio Iran on Premiership for Majlis Speaker

GF161804 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Excerpts] The Tehran daily *ETTELA'AT* of 13 July on pages 2 and 3 has brief reports about meetings between officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Majlis speaker, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The meetings which took place on Thursday, 11 July, were between Hashemi-Rafsanjani and 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister; Hojjat ol-Eslam Khosrowshahi, Iranian ambassador to the Vatican; Larijani, Foreign Ministry adviser; Akrami, education and development minister; as well as a number of his deputies in addition to the Iranian ambassador to Bangladesh, Akhundzadeh. They all gave Hashemi-Rafsanjani reports about their ministries and embassies.

Considering this report and another one published in the Tehran English daily, *TEHRAN TIMES*, the rumor of Hashemi-Rafsanjani becoming the prime minister has again surfaced. *THE TEHRAN TIMES* editorial expressed the opinion that currently the formation of a powerful and decisive government headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani can eradicate many of the present difficulties and create a desirable cohesion in the affairs of the Islamic Republic.

Radio Iran Comments on Coming Trial of Hezbollahis

GF101631 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Fersian 1330 GMT 10 Jul 85

[Text] Nationalist sources from within the Guards Corps report that a group of hezbollahis will go on trial in Tehran next week. The group, who consider themselves followers of true Islam and call Khomeyni a representative of satan, are accused of activities against the system of the Islamic Republic and efforts to overthrow the Khomeyni regime.

Members of the hezbollahi group, some of whom are currently in prison and are being interrogated, separated from the hezbollahi faction led by Khomeyni and formed a new organization to overthrow the Islamic regime. The leaders of this group, Q'alehgolabi and Mojtaba Nabovvat, were arrested 8 months ago. According to our report, most of the group members are Guards Corps personnel and armed elements of Khomeyni's regime. Those who have been arrested strongly condemned the Islamic Republic regime and its leaders in the first stage of interrogation, calling for Muslims to rise up against Khomeyni.

Mullah Mohammad Reyshahri, the minister of intelligence of the regime, refered to the arrest of members of this group recently, saying: These people created a movement called hezbollah. This is a determined ideological, political, and cultural move aimed at the overthrow of the Islamic Republic and opposition to true hezbollahis. Reyshahri described the unofficial hezbollah as dangerous and announced that some of the main leaders of the movement have been arrested. He confessed that many of the government's hezbollahis had gradually joined this group and were cooperating with them in the attempt to overthrow the Islamic regime. According to Reyshahri, the judiciary plans to severely punish members of this group. Reyshahri also said that he did not know anything about the trial of Tudeh Party members, saying that the Ministry of Information cannot make any decisions about Tudeh Party leaders.

Radio Iran on Clerics Killed on War Fronts

GF151930 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] Some of the theological students from Qom who had gone for a visit to the war fronts in the south were killed because they were not careful and did not pay attention to security precautions. They were in sight of the Iraqi troops and were killed by Iraqi gunfire when they approached the frontlines.

Following this incident 20 of the Revolutionary Guards who were responsible to show various places in the war fronts to the clergymen were arrested and sentenced to death on charges of treason and cooperation with anti-regime elements. The sentences were carried out immediately at the battlefield.

Following the execution of this group of Revolutionary Guards, a large number of Islamic guards revolted and condemned the execution of their comrades. According to reports received, the Revolutionary Guards were angry because of the execution and announced that the war front is not a center of amusement for the regime to bring in a group of clergymen once in a while just to show that the "clergy are present on the war fronts." The guards said some of the clerics died or were wounded because of their own carelessness. Then, the guards said, they arrest and execute the Revolutioanry Guards in revenge for the clergymen's deaths. It is reported in Tehran that the guards' rebellion is so serious that nearly 300 have been arrested.

Radio Iran Reports Arrest of Clergyman

GF161746 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Opposition by the Iranian clergy to the policies of the Islamic regime continues. Hojjat ol-Eslam Nuroddin Shahrestani, son of Ayatollah Shahrestani, in a speech in Ashtianiha Mosque called the condition of mosques miserable and accused the Islamic Republic regime of turning centers of worship for the almighty into business premises. He said: There are hands that are trying to demean and destroy Islam. The religious situation has reached the point when the government uses mosques as centers of distribution for refrigerators, coolers, and thousands of other goods. They have no reverence for the house of God.

He asked the leaders of the Islamic Republic whether mosques are places for worshiping the Lord or supermarkets and places to collect wealth and sell things at high prices? According to Iranian sources, following Hojjat ol-Eslam Shahrestani's remarks, a number of armed guards rushed into the mosque, and pulled him down from the pulpit.

A clerical source sending us this report added that entering the mosque armed, is an open insult to Shari'a. He warned that the Iranian clergy will never forgive Khomeyni's crimes against the ulema, sources of emulation and the clergy and also noted that mercenaries of the regime in Shiraz attacked Ayatollah Pishva and Hojjat ol-Eslam Mesbahi for uttering the truth, defending the sanctity of religion, and expressing solidarity with the people. They were wounded in front of the public.

The same clergyman also reported that some committee officials who receive their orders from one of the pseudoclergy rushed into Fatemiyeh Mosque in Tehran's Naseri Avenue and insulted Hajj Aqa Kamal Mortazavi who is the mosque's prayer leader. His crime was advising the leaders of the tribe against bringing financial decadence into the mosques.

KEYHAN on Closure of SOBH-E AZADEGAN

GF140838 London KEYHAN in Persian 4 Jul 85 p 3

[Text] Differences between the Guards Corps and Martyrs' Foundation resulted in the closure of *SOBH-E AZADEGAN*. The newspaper is the official publication of the Guards Corps but has been financed by the Martyrs' Foundation. When *AYAN DEGAN* newspaper was confiscated, the Martyrs' Foundation assumed control of it, and the Guards Corps, using its power, replaced *AYANDEGAN* with *SOBH-E AZADEGAN*, publishing it as its official newspaper. However, in the past few months severe disagreements between the Guards Corps and Martyrs' Foundation surfaced over the financial affairs of the paper and printing house. The Guards Corps, using *SOBH-E AZADEGAN*, revealed some of the affairs of the foundation.

The foundation in turn used its power and especially its financial clout to take the case to the prosecutor, who in turn ordered the closure of the paper. The prosecutor cited the lack of a license as the reason for closing the newspaper! So *SOBH-E AZADEGAN*, the official publication of the Guards Corps, now has remained banned for a week, and the corps has been unable to reverse the decision, no matter how powerful it may be. It is interesting to note that the prime minister, Mir Hoseyn Musavi, hoped that the ban will soon be removed. The incident shows that the Guards Corps does not have the power it once had confronting the prosecutor's office or other revolution organizations.

Radio Iran Notes Closure

GF161810 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] The reasons for the closure of *SOBH-E AZADEGAN*, unknown up to now, have been revealed in the Tehran daily, *KEYHAN* of 15 July. The paper was closed due to clashes between competing factions as revealed in an answer from the public relations department of the prosecutor's office published in the daily.

The public relations department of the prosecutor's office of the Islamic Republic confessed that the order for the paper's closure was issued after a complaint by 50 members of the Majlis. The deputies, all of whom objected to an addendum to the tax bill, were called uninformed, unsuitable, and ignorant in a *SOBH-E AZADEGAN* article signed by Iraj M. who called himself a banking expert. They were also described as unsuitable for making decisions on behalf of the people.

Thirty other instances of complaints by legal and real individuals and organizations had also been made. An inspector from the general prosecutor's office, when visiting the paper, discovered that the publication was without a manager and chief editor and thus ordered the closure of the paper. The statement goes on to add that any insult or false accusations against anyone is illegal and one punishment for it is 30 lashes.

Free Voice of Iran on Protest in Esfahan Village

GF161726 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] According to our reports, on Saturday, 13 July, people of 'Asgarabad village in Esfahan Province held extensive protest demonstrations against the Khomeyni regime. The demonstrations which lasted until the noon of the following day ended when the guards of the regime attacked the village and surrounded it. In the armed attack by the guards against the 'Asgarabad villagers, 3 people were killed and another 30 wounded. Their bodies remained in the streets hours after the guards crushed the demonstration.

Two guards vehicles were attacked on Namju Avenue in Tehran by armed strugglers. They were destroyed and according to further report by our correspondent, another vehicle was also set on fire by armed strugglers in Yusefabad Avenue. In recent days, armed strugglers and resistance forces in the country have dealt severe blows against the agents of the repressive Khomeyni regime in Tehran and other cities.

KEYHAN Condemns Execution of Tudeh Members

GF151037 London KEYHAN in Persian 4 Jul 85 p 1

[Text] Coinciding with the deepening of differences between Tehran and Moscow, mass media, including Radio Israel, have announced that 15 leaders of Iran's Tudeh Party have been sentenced to death. According to these reports the sentences have been carried out in Tehran's Evin prison.

Islamic Republic authorities have not issued any formal announcement on the subject, but our reporter in Tehran says that these 15 persons were not among the leaders of the Tudeh Party, such as Kianuri and Ehsan Tabari.

This same report indicates that news of the executions is accurate, but that all of those executed were not members of the Tudeh Party. Some reportedly were members of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq and Mojahedin.